

March 24, 1976

SENATOR STULL: Well now, Mr. President and members of the legislature, if I understand this correctly, you are striking out the one that would give the, would take off for the highway system or they couldn't turn these roads back to the county. That's the part you are striking out.

PRESIDENT: Well, Senator Maresh's amendment would do that, yes.

SENATOR STULL: Well I'm in agreement with that because when the package of highway bills were passed back in 1969 that was part of the package that they would improve these roads to the minimum standards before they would turn them back to the counties and I think that the Department of Roads should live up to that agreement. For that reason I don't know as I'm going to support this bill anyway but I certainly want that part of the amendment struck.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well Mr. President and members of the legislature, I wholeheartedly support Senator Maresh's amendment. I don't think it would be possible for us ever to get Highway 66 hard-surfaced under this proposal. I think it's one more attempt to take the load off the state and send it back to the counties. I don't see any justification for it what so ever. Those roads were the state's responsibility, they should remain so. We should not resort to subterfuge in an attempt to fool the public as to what our real responsibilities are and I would hope that you would adopt Senator Maresh's amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Bereuter.

SENATOR BEREUTER: Mr. President, members of the legislature, I too rise in firm support of Senator Maresh's amendment. Last year about this time I handed out to the members of this body an analysis of how many miles of gravel state highway you had in each of your districts. As you know a great many of you have substantial amounts of county, of state highway that happens to be in gravel condition. If we leave this bill as it is it's quite likely you are going to get that state highway back but it's going to be given back to you at gravel standards. I'd hope that every member of this body, whether or not you have gravel state highway in your district, would have sympathy for those of us who do and would very strongly support Senator Maresh's amendment. There's absolutely no way the Senators who have these types of roads, these gravel roads could support this bill. Despite the fact that we need more construction revenue. I urge the support, your support of Senator Maresh's amendment.

PRESIDENT: The question is the adoption of Senator Maresh's amendment. Record your vote. Have you voted? Record.

CLERK: 21 ayes, 10 nays to adopt the Maresh amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is adopted. Any other amendments to the committee amendments? Alright, Senator Carsten.